



DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
STATE OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY

MICHAEL L. PARSON
GOVERNOR

*Serving, promoting and protecting the agricultural producers, processors
and consumers of Missouri's food, fuel and fiber products.*

CHRIS CHINN
DIRECTOR

September 27, 2022

The Honorable Michael L. Parson
Governor of Missouri
State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Governor Parson:

The following information is furnished to you in accordance with Section 261.450, RSMo., which requires the Missouri Food Security Task Force to submit an annual report to the General Assembly of its findings and recommendations to address food insecurity in the state of Missouri.

The Missouri Food Security Task Force is comprised of twenty five members with bipartisan representation from both chambers of the General Assembly, several state agencies, and various organizations from within the food insecurity network.

The Task Force held its first official meeting on October 18, 2021. Since then, the Task Force has conducted quarterly meetings. Within these meetings, the group has discussed ways to address food insecurity and which geographical areas are in need. The Task Force has found that the largest obstacles consumers face with food insecurity is transportation, access to, and awareness of resources. Furthermore, the Task Force has constructed five subcommittees to focus on the five pillars of the Task Force defined in statute. These subcommittee's being: Healthy Food Access, Connecting Resources, Food Deserts, Online Food Retail, and Safety Net Programming.

Since the creation of the Task Force and the five adjacent subcommittees, there has been a change in leadership. This change in leadership has allowed a new chairman to take position. With new leadership, the Task Force will be reorganizing to better focus on key strategic goals to address food insecurity in Missouri. Furthermore, they will be prioritizing a path forward to move the needle as a collective group.

The Task Force members are committed to evaluating food insecurity challenges in Missouri and developing a strategy to providing assistance to Missourian's.

Sincerely,

Chris Chinn, Director